

Number of live-play and tabletop exercises held within the National Counter Terrorist Exercise Programme 2007-2009 (2 Feb)

The Government and the emergency services regularly train and practice responses to a range of incidents, including natural disasters and accidents.

The Office for Security and Counter Terrorism leads and manages the UK's National Counter Terrorism (CT) Exercise Programme in co-operation with the Association of Chief Police Officers.

This programme is among the best in the world and is a vital part of resilience and contingency planning. It enables us to test plans and systems thoroughly, train frontline responders, and highlight vulnerabilities.

The National CT Exercise Programme is dynamic and ensures that exercises reflect the changing nature of the terrorist threat worldwide.

In agreement with Chief Constables, it was comprehensively revised and remodelled in 2008 to better support counter terrorism preparedness nationwide.

What does the programme involve?

The exercise programme has been running for over 30 years and:

- is centred on three annual, national-level, live exercises involving police forces, the security and intelligence agencies, the Armed Forces and other government departments
- serves to devise, maintain and regularly exercise those capabilities and responses which would be of key importance in the event of a terrorist incident
- further improves the abilities of the police service and other key partners to prepare for, respond to, and manage terrorist investigations and incidents.
- is designed to ensure each of the nine ACPO policing regions, and Scotland, host a live exercise in turn. At least two police forces within a region are involved to test cross-border policing and interoperability.
- also exercises the way that the local response to a terrorist incident and the response from central government link up.

National CT exercises are the culminating event of a structured series of smaller scale preparatory exercises. These may include tabletop, tactical field training and other exercises aimed at developing greater CT preparedness. Both live and tabletop exercises cover a range of scenarios.

The programme forms an important part of counter terrorism work because it ensures we are prepared to respond to any kind of terrorist attack and that our counter terrorist arrangements are thoroughly tested.

The programme comprises exercises that involve elements of live-play and table-top exercises. Between 2007 and 2009, the Home Office delivered the following counter terrorist exercises as part of this programme:

Live Exercises		Table Top Exercises	
2007	3	2007	5
2008	2 ¹	2008	10
2009	3	2009	7

¹*One of the 2008 live exercises comprised a strategic tabletop exercise in COBR linked to a tactical live play exercise.*

Annex A

**HOME OFFICE BUSINESS CONTINUITY EXERCISES
2007 - 2010**

DATE/DURATION	PURPOSE	LOCATION	TITLE
February 2007	Exercise the Disaster Management Plan to ensure that the HO maintains critical outputs during incidents	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	Disaster Management Team BC Policy and Plan Exercise
June 2007	Exercise the Disaster Management Plan to ensure that the HO maintains critical outputs during incidents	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	HO Board Disaster Management and Business Recovery Exercise
November 2007	Exercise the Disaster Management Team's role in a Disaster and the relocation of critical personnel	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street and at Relocation Site	Disaster Management Team BC Policy and Plan Exercise

March 2008	Exercise of Scientific Development Branch BC Plan	Sandridge	Science & Research Group BC Plan Exercise
April 2008	Exercise Office for Security and Counter Terrorism BC Plans and the relocation of critical personnel	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street and Relocation Sites	Office for Security and Counter Terrorism BC Policy and Plan Exercise
July 2008	Exercise OSCT BC Plans and communications with stakeholders	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	Office for Security and Counter Terrorism (OSCT) BC Plans and Communications exercise
September 2008	Science & Research Group, Communication and Development Section BC Policy and Plan Exercise	Sandridge	Science & Research Group BC Policy and Plan Exercise
January 2009	Exercise OSCT crisis management and relocation plans	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	OSCT crisis management and relocation exercise
March 2009	Exercise OSCT BC Plans and communications with stakeholders	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	Office for Security and Counter Terrorism BC Plans and Communications exercise
April 2009	Collaborative IT and Facilities Management BC Policy and	Home Office - 2 Marsham	Exercise of joint IT and Facilities Management BC Plans

	Plans exercise in handling major incidents	Street	
June 2009	Exercise OSCT crisis management and relocation plans	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	OSCT crisis management and relocation exercise
September 2009	Exercise of Pandemic Flu plans	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	Pandemic Flu Plan exercise
September 2009	Joint exercise of Shared Services Directorate BC Plans	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	Joint Shared Services Directorate BC Plan exercise with IT, Facilities Management, Information Management and HR areas
January 2010	Exercise Incident Management Plan and structure	Home Office - 2 Marsham Street	Exercise Incident Management Policy and Plan
July 2009	Exercise UKBA's response to a pandemic illness.		An Agency wide table top exercise of plans for responding to serious sustained staff shortages.

UKBA has published its business continuity policy. All units/directorates are required to have business continuity plans in place and to test them annually, however records of tests are not held centrally.

**BUSINESS CONTINUITY EXERCISES RUN BY IPS
2007-2010**

January 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	Durham Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
February 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	Belfast Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
February 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	Glasgow Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
March 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	Newport Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
March 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	Liverpool Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
April 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	London Headquarters	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
October 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	National Crisis Management Team	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
October 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	Glasgow	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise

		Regional Office	
December 2007	Exercise of BC Plans	Durham Regional Office	Business Continuity Desktop Exercise
January 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Newport Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
February 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Durham Regional office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
April 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	National Crisis Management Team	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
April 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Peterborough Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
April 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Liverpool Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
October 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	National Crisis Management Team	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
October 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Belfast Regional Office	Business Continuity Desktop Exercise
November 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Birmingham ION	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise

November 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Durham Regional Office	Business Continuity Desktop Exercise
November 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Newport Regional Office	Business Continuity Desktop Exercise
December 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Belfast Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
December 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Newport Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
December 2008	Exercise of BC Plans	Durham Regional office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
January 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	London ION	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
January 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	National Crisis Management Team	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
February 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	Liverpool Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
February 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	Peterborough Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
February 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	Manchester ION	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
March 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	Liverpool	Business Continuity Desktop Exercise

		Regional Office	
March 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	General Register Office, Southport	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
March 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	London Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
September 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	Durham Regional Office	Business Continuity Desktop Exercise
September 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	Belfast Regional Office	Business Continuity Desktop Exercise
November 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	General Register Office, Southport	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
November 2010	Exercise of BC Plans	Newcastle ION	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
November 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	Durham Regional office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
November 2009	Exercise of BC Plans	Newport Regional Office	Business Continuity Desktop Exercise
January 2010	Exercise of BC Plans	Edinburgh ION	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise
January 2010	Exercise of BC Plans	Newport Regional Office	Business Continuity Simulation Exercise

